

The Honorable Richard A. Jones

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
AT SEATTLE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
Plaintiff,  
v.  
MARIA GEORGIANNA PALM,  
Defendant.

No. 2:23-cr-00058-RAJ

PROTECTIVE ORDER

This matter, having come to the Court's attention on the government's unopposed motion for entry of a discovery protective order, and the Court, having considered the motion, and being fully advised in this matter, hereby enters the following PROTECTIVE ORDER:

**1. Definitions.**

*A. Protected Material.* The following documents and materials are deemed Protected Material<sup>1</sup>:

- i. Grand jury transcripts and exhibits;
- ii. Victim and non-law enforcement witness statements, including but not limited to reports of law enforcement officers memorializing witness statements;

<sup>1</sup> Certain Protected Material may also be Sensitive Material. If so, the more restrictive rules relating to Sensitive Material will apply.

1           iii.     Records obtained that corroborate the witnesses' or victims'  
2 statements;

3           iv.     The personal information related to victims and/or witnesses, and  
4 any statements and/or documents containing personal information related to any  
5 victims and/or witnesses. As used in this Order, the term "personal information"  
6 refers to each victim's and/or witness's date of birth, Social Security number (or  
7 other similar identification information), driver's license number, address,  
8 telephone number, location of residence or employment, school records, juvenile  
9 criminal records, financial records, and other similar information. In addition, with  
10 respect to any victims or potential victims in this case, the term "personal  
11 information" also includes the name and identity of each victim; and

12           v.     Material similar to the material described above, where permitting  
13 the defendant to possess the material or disseminating it outside of the defense  
14 team would tend to harm the security, privacy, or dignity of the victim.

15       *B. Sensitive Material.* The following documents and materials are deemed  
16 Sensitive Material:

17           i.     Medical records related to victims and/or witnesses;

18           ii.    Sexually suggestive photographs of victims and/or witnesses,  
19 including but not limited to photographs connected to online advertisements for  
20 prostitution; and

21           iii.   Material similar to the material described above, where showing it to  
22 the defendant or disseminating it outside of the defense team would tend to harm  
23 the security, privacy, or dignity of the victim.

24       *C. Defense Team.* The following individuals constitute the "defense team":

25           i.     Attorneys of record and other attorneys at the same firm while  
26 working on this case;

27           ii.    Investigators employed or retained by the attorneys of record to  
28 work on this case;

1           iii. Paralegals, law clerks, assistants, and other similar professionals  
2           who are employed or retained by the attorneys of record; and

3           iv. Experts employed or retained by the attorneys of record to work on  
4           this case.

5 The defense team does not include the defendant or any member of his family or other  
6 associate.

7 **2. Handling of Protected Material and Sensitive Material**

8 Pursuant to this Protective Order, the United States will provide copies of the  
9 Protected Material and Sensitive Material, including those filed under seal, to defense  
10 counsel to comply with the government's discovery obligations. The government shall  
11 make its best efforts to mark Protected Material and Sensitive Material as such or  
12 otherwise identify it clearly for defense counsel.

13 Possession of the Protected Material is limited to the defense team. The defense  
14 team may show the Protected Material to the defendant; however, members of the  
15 defense team are prohibited from providing a copy of the Protected Material in any  
16 format to the defendant, except that they may provide an electronic copy of the Protected  
17 Material to the Federal Detention Center at SeaTac, Washington, for the defendant's use  
18 in a controlled environment if she is in custody there. The defendant may not print, copy,  
19 have anyone else print or copy on her behalf, or in any other manner obtain, retain, or  
20 disseminate a copy of the Protected Material, nor may she show it to other individuals  
21 who are not members of the defense team. Additionally, the defense team is prohibited  
22 from duplicating or providing copies of the Protected Material to any other person who is  
23 not a member of the defense team.

24 Possession of Sensitive Material is limited to the defense team. The attorneys of  
25 record and members of the defense team may *not* show Sensitive Material to the  
26 defendant or provide her with a copy in any format. The defense team may, however,  
27 describe and discuss the contents of Sensitive Material with the defendant. Further, the  
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1 defense team is prohibited from describing, discussing, showing, or providing Sensitive  
2 Material to any person who is not a member of the defense team.

3 The defense team shall keep any Sensitive Material or documents containing  
4 Sensitive Material secured whenever it is not being used in furtherance of their work in  
5 the above-captioned case.

6 Additional discovery items may be deemed by the parties to constitute Protected  
7 or Sensitive Material upon agreement.

8 Any violation of these prohibitions constitutes a violation of the Protective Order.  
9 Further, defense counsel is required, prior to disseminating any copies of the Protected or  
10 Sensitive Materials to members of the defense team, to provide a copy of this Protective  
11 Order to members of the defense team, and to obtain their written acknowledgment that  
12 they are bound by the terms and conditions of this Protective Order. The written  
13 acknowledgement need not be disclosed or produced to the United States unless  
14 requested by the Assistant United States Attorney and ordered by the Court.

15 **3. Filing**

16 Any Protected or Sensitive Material that is filed with the Court in connection with  
17 pre-trial motions, trial, or other matter before this Court shall be filed under seal and shall  
18 remain sealed until otherwise ordered by this Court. This does not entitle either party to  
19 seal their filings as a matter of course. The parties are required to comply in all respects  
20 to the relevant local and federal rules of criminal procedure pertaining to the sealing of  
21 court documents.

22 **4. Nontermination**

23 The provisions of this Order shall not terminate at the conclusion of this  
24 prosecution.

25 **5. Violation of Any Terms of this Order**

26 Any violation of any term or condition of this Order by the defendant, her  
27 attorneys of record, or any member of the defense team may result in the responsible  
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1 individual being held in contempt of court and/or subjected to monetary or other  
2 sanctions as deemed appropriate by this Court.

3 If the defendant violates any term or condition of this Order, the United States  
4 reserves its right to seek a sentencing enhancement for obstruction of justice or to file any  
5 appropriate criminal charges relating to the defendant's violation.

6 **6. Right to Review**

7 The parties agree that in the event that compliance with this Order makes it  
8 difficult for defense counsel to adhere to their Sixth Amendment obligations, or  
9 otherwise imposes an unworkable burden on counsel, defense counsel shall bring any  
10 concerns about the terms of the Order to the attention of the government. The parties  
11 shall then meet and confer with the intention of finding a mutually acceptable solution.  
12 In the event that the parties cannot reach such a solution, defense counsel shall have the  
13 right to bring any concerns about the scope or terms of the Order to the attention of the  
14 Court.

15 **7. No New Discovery Obligations**

16 Nothing in this order should be construed as imposing any discovery obligations  
17 on the government that are different from those imposed by case law, statute, and Rule 16  
18 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.

19  
20 DATED this 29th day of March, 2024.

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23 The Honorable Richard A. Jones  
24 United States District Judge  
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